# **COVID Vaccine Planning Updates**

December 11, 2020

## Today's Panel

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### **COVID-19 Vaccine Candidates**

Vaccine A (Pfizer) – Ultracold Storage Requirements (-70°C/-94°F)

- Two dose series administered 21 days apart; same brand must be used for both doses
- EUA applied for 11/20
- Anticipate authorization from FDA and CDC ACIP guidance by mid-December

Vaccine B (Moderna) – Standard Freezer Storage Requirements (-20°C/-4°F)

- Two dose series administered 28 days apart; same brand must be used for both doses
- EUA applied for 11/30
- Anticipate FDA authorization in mid to late December

# Pfizer Efficacy and Safety

### Efficacy >95%:

- 162 cases in the placebo group; 8 cases in the vaccine group
- Efficacy consistent across age (>94% in adults >65), gender, race, and ethnicity

#### May help to prevent severe cases:

• 10/170 cases were severe; 9/10 were in the placebo group

#### Side effects limited:

- 3.8% with fatigue after dose 2
- 2.0% with headache after dose 2

# Moderna Efficacy and Safety

### 94.5% efficacy:

• 185/196 cases occurred in the placebo group

### Appeared to prevent severe cases:

 30/196 cases were severe; all of those cases occurred in the placebo group

#### No serious safety concerns:

• 9.7% fatigue, 8.9% muscle aches, 5.2% joint aches, 4.5% headache, 4.1% pain

### COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration

FDA's Vaccine and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBAC)

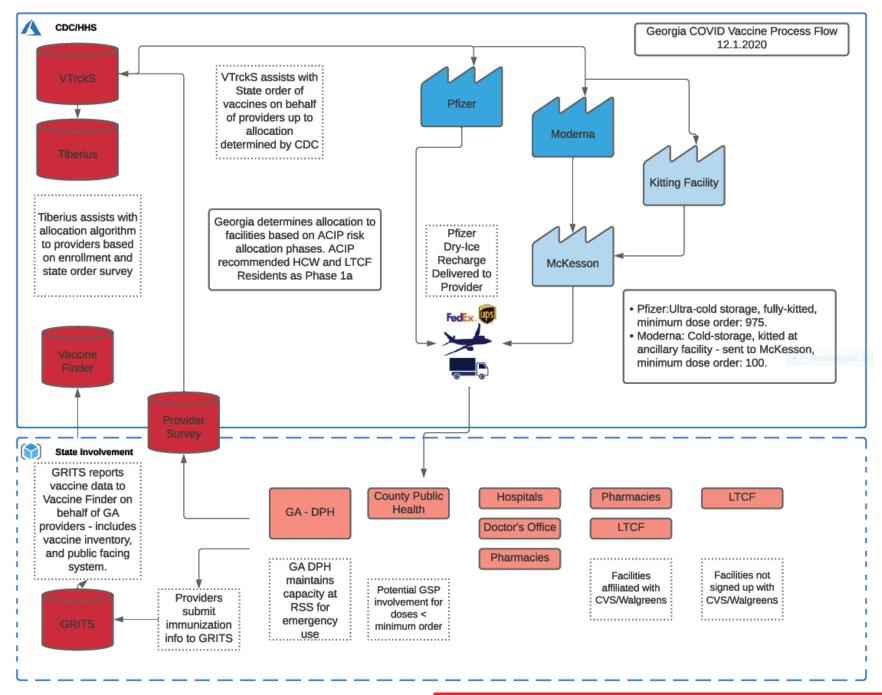
- 12/10: to review data on the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine
- 12/17: to make recommendations on the Moderna vaccine

The FDA will decide Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for each vaccine after VRPBAC meeting

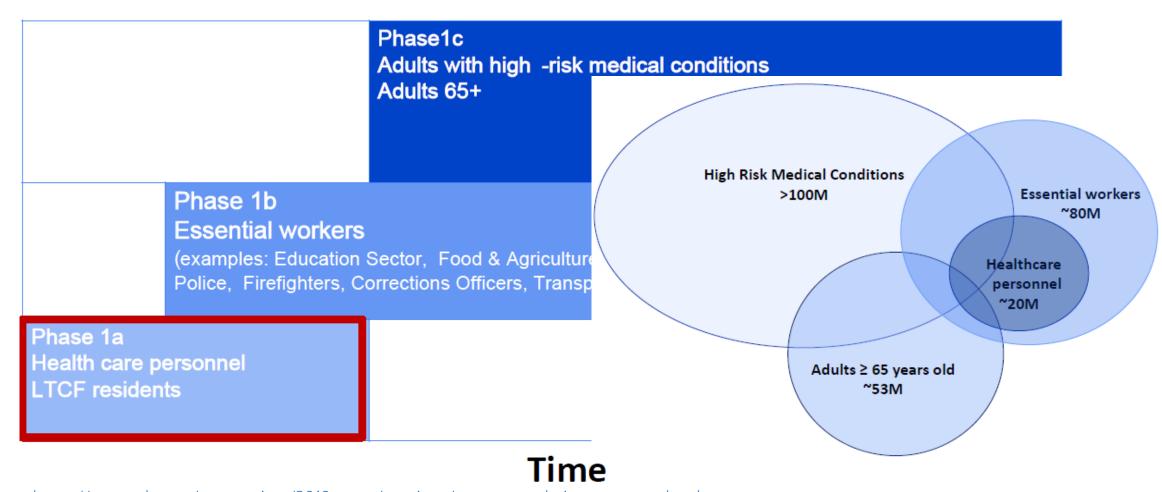
Georgia will be ready to vaccinate when the EUA and ACIP vote

Our initial allocation will not cover all HCWs and LTCFs in the state

- Allocation to facilities will be based on population and ordering
- CDC's program Tiberius is tool that assists with allocation planning



# Proposed Groups For Phase 1 Vaccination



https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations-process.html

## **Priority Considerations**

- Ensure access to the vaccine based upon 1) federal/state regulations, and 2) supply availability
- It's likely that the first shipment we get in December will be a smaller amount, so plans to vaccinate in prioritized groups are critical
- Considerations:
  - Staffing in a surge to ensure patient safety
  - Patient exposure risk in long-term care facilities
  - Staff exposure and transmission risk
  - Reassurance about safety/efficacy
  - Timing relative to work schedule

## Phase 1a – Healthcare Providers and LTCFs

- The vaccine will initially be given to HCWs and LTCF staff and residents.
- In the future (likely, in Spring/Summer 2021), the vaccine will be distributed more widely, and recommendations will likely expand to include the general population, families, etc., as there is availability.

## Remaining Priority Groups

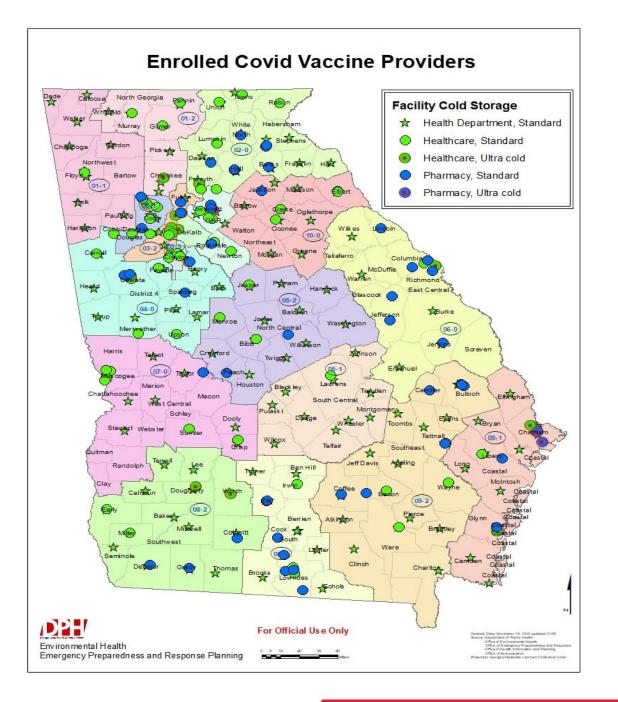
- DPH is committed to transparency in sharing how groups are prioritized.
- Recommended priority groups will be revised as ACIP recommendations are released.
- Facilities will schedule and manage their employees:
  - Will recommend at least 24 hours before working a shift to avoid confusion from side effects
  - Recommend staggering distribution so that you don't end up with an entire group having side effects at the same time

## Possible Side Effects

- The most common side effects are:
  - Mild pain at injection site
  - Low-grade fever
  - Headache
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle aches/joint pain
- Usually, short-lived
- No serious/life-threatening adverse events reported with either of the mRNA vaccines in initial studies

### Masks Recommended After Vaccination

- Getting a vaccine series does NOT mean one can stop wearing a mask, eye protection or stop social distancing practices. No vaccines are 100% effective.
- Recommendations to follow PPE protocols in patient settings; as well as masking, eye protection, social distancing in our daily lives for the foreseeable future will continue.
- We also do not know if the vaccines prevent carriage or asymptomatic infections.



## Provider Enrollment

- Register with GIP to become a COVID-19 vaccination provider
- Complete required COVID-19 vaccine related training
- Determine capacity to properly store, administer, and monitor COVID-19 vaccine supply
- Determine capacity to serve as a mass vaccination site/private vaccination site
- Comply with COVID-19 vaccination reporting requirements

# Vaccine Ordering and Shipments

- Enrolled COVID Providers will not place COVID vaccine orders using GRITS
- Providers will request COVID vaccine using a survey
- The survey can be found at this link: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GA-COVID19-Orders">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GA-COVID19-Orders</a>
  - 975 minimum order for Pfizer vaccine shipments
  - 100 minimum order for Moderna shipments
  - Pfizer ships directly to provider from distribution site in Kalamazoo, Mich.
  - Moderna sent to McKesson Depot located in Memphis, TN
- Ancillary supply kits orders are automatically placed when COVID vaccines orders are submitted. Ancillary kits will arrive the day before or the same day COVID vaccine arrives.

# Vaccine Ordering and Allocations

- Provider vaccine requests collected from the order survey will be entered into CDC's Vaccine Tracking System (VTrckS)
- Allocations will be processed via VTrckS *EXIS Provider Orders (Sales Orders) Interface,* similarly to how other seasonal "Special Circumstance" orders are processed such as requests for influenza vaccine supplied by the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.
- Initial shipments will include the first dose for the number of patients. Second doses will be held by the federal government to ensure availability of a matching dose to complete the vaccine series.

### **Vaccine Communications**

- DPH is actively working on messaging that can be shared with our districts and external partners
- We will be messaging to the provider communities as developments continue
- We will work to ensure that communication is focused with a local perspective, with engagement from the community

### **Contact Information**

General Questions
<a href="mailto:DPH-COVID19Vaccine@dph.ga.gov">DPH-COVID19Vaccine@dph.ga.gov</a>